

Listing of Claims

Please amend claim 8-10 and 12, and add new claims 13-18 as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims and listings of claims in the application:

1. (original) A medical implant, comprising a hollow body for implanting inside the stomach of a patient, the hollow body having a first tube-like section at a first end and having a second tube-like section at a second end, the first tube-like section being dimensioned to fit into the esophagus of a patient and the second tube-like end section being dimensioned to be connected in a sealed manner to a small intestine loop within the patient.

2. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said hollow body further comprises adjustment means for adjusting the volume of said hollow body.

3. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, further comprising fixing means provided at said first and second tube-like end sections for fixing said end sections to parts of organs of the patient.

4. (original) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said hollow body further comprises a hollow flexible central portion between said first and second end sections, said central portion bulging relative to said end sections and being connected to the same.

5. (original) The medical implant according to claim 2, further comprising fixing means provided at said first and second tube-like end sections for fixing said end sections to parts of organs of the patient.

6. (original) The medical implant according to claim 2, wherein said hollow body further comprises a hollow flexible central portion between said first and second end sections, said central portion bulging relative to said end sections and being connected to the same.

7. (original) The medical implant according to claim 3, wherein said hollow body further comprises a hollow flexible central portion between said first and second end sections, said central portion bulging relative to said end sections and being connected to the same.

8. (currently amended) The medical implant according to claim 1, wherein said hollow body includes a central portion that defines a desired artificial stomach volume of the patient.

9. (currently amended) The medical implant according to claim 2, wherein said hollow body includes a central portion that defines a desired artificial stomach volume of the patient.

10. (currently amended) The medical implant according to claim 3, wherein said hollow body includes a central portion that defines a desired artificial stomach volume of the patient.

11. (original) The medical implant according to claim 4, wherein said central portion defines a desired artificial stomach volume of the patient.

12. (currently amended) The medical implant according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the ~~flexible~~ hollow body (1) comprises an additional aperture (11) directed to the stomach.

13. (original) A method for treating obesity, comprising implanting a hollow body into the stomach of a patient, the hollow body having a first tube-like section at a first end and having a second tube-like section at a second end, the first tube-like section being dimensioned to fit into the esophagus of a patient and the second tube-like end section being dimensioned to be connected in a sealed manner to a small intestine loop within the patient,

by the steps of attaching said first tube-like section into the esophagus of said patient, and attaching said second tube-like end section into a small intestine loop, whereby food passes from the esophagus directly into the small intestine loop.

14. (new) The method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of adjusting the volume of said hollow body.

15. (new) The method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of fixing said first and second tube-like sections to parts of organs of the patient.

16. (new) The method according to claim 13, further comprising a step of bulging a hollow central portion of said hollow body between said first and second tube-like sections relative to said first and second tube-like sections.

17. (new) The method according to claim 16, further comprising a step of adjusting a desired artificial stomach volume of the patient by bulging said hollow central portion.

18. (new) The medical implant according to claim 13, wherein the hollow body comprises an additional aperture directed to the stomach that allows food to either pass into the stomach or the small intestine.